



# NEWS RELEASE

GOVERNOR'S COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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## **BREDESEN RECOGNIZES FIRST HOPE SCHOLARS ALL ELIGIBLE TENNESSEE STUDENTS URGED TO APPLY ASAP**

**MEMPHIS** - Governor Phil Bredesen today recognized 18 Tennessee HOPE scholars in the first in a series of regional events to raise awareness of lottery-funded scholarships and to encourage eligible high-school seniors to submit their applications as soon as possible.

Bredesen joined Senator Steve Cohen, who spearheaded lottery legislation for nearly two decades, in welcoming and congratulating some of the first HOPE scholars from the Memphis area during an afternoon reception at the University of Memphis.

The students, whose scholarships are tentatively approved pending graduation, represented Memphis City and Shelby County schools (see attached list). To date, approximately 8,000 students statewide have met the initial eligibility requirements to receive HOPE scholarships, which are funded by proceeds from the newly established Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation.

"The financial benefits of the HOPE Scholarships are opening a new world of opportunity to these and other students across the state," Bredesen said. "Any Tennessee student who meets the minimum requirements and wants to go to college in-state needs to be sure to get his or her application in as soon as possible."

"Just as the Lottery is helping keep more consumer dollars in the state, the HOPE scholarship will help keep our best and brightest students in Tennessee colleges and universities," Cohen said. "Education is the real winner in the Lottery, and these new HOPE scholars in the future will be contributing to our workforce and to our communities."

Eligible students can apply for the HOPE scholarship by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and enrolling in a qualified Tennessee college or university. Students are urged to apply as soon as possible so that their applications can be processed in time for the fall semester.

HOPE scholars must have a minimum 3.0 grade-point average or score at least 19 on the ACT. Scholars are eligible for assistance of up to \$3,000 annually, or \$4,000 if they demonstrate exceptional academic achievement or considerable financial need.

An estimated 65,000 students are expected to attend Tennessee colleges and universities on lottery-funded scholarships and grants next fall. Roughly three-quarters of those — 49,000 — are expected to be HOPE scholars. The remaining 16,000 will receive technical skills grants to attend state Technology Centers. Students can find more information on the HOPE scholarship and other programs by visiting the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation's "Scholar Dollars" web site at [www.tnscholardollars.com](http://www.tnscholardollars.com).

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## MEMPHIS AREA SCHOLARS

### HOPE SCHOLAR

Amber M. Case  
Teundrawl N. Coleman  
DeShawn J. Davenport  
Brittany L. Forbes  
Candice L. Gray  
Jordan E. Hewitt  
Jacob S. Kleiman  
Truc Nhu Ba Le  
Brandon J. Patterson  
KeShunda M. Pittman  
Kelvin L. Pollard  
Jarvis J. Randall  
Heather L. Ross  
Fabio A. Sarria  
Dionne M. Smith  
Tasia H. Todd  
James Austin Walne  
Earl A. Wynne

### HIGH SCHOOL

Ridgeway H.S.  
Frayser H.S.  
East H.S.  
Wooddale H.S.  
Craigmont H.S.  
Mitchell H.S.  
White Station H.S.  
Overton H.S.  
Germantown H.S.  
Raleigh-Egypt H.S.  
Whitehaven H.S.  
Cordova H.S.  
Bolton H.S.  
Central H.S.  
Westwood H.S.  
Booker T. Washington H.S.  
Collierville H.S.  
Hamilton H.S.

### COLLEGE CHOICE

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Undecided  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
University of Memphis  
Rhodes College  
Undecided  
Undecided  
Christian Brothers University  
University of Memphis  
Tennessee State University  
Austin Peay State University  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Rhodes College  
Christian Brothers University  
University of Memphis  
Christian Brothers University  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Undecided